AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims.

1. -- 46. (Canceled)

47.   (Newly Added) A system for enabling an outside entity to control devices at a location, the system comprising:

an interface to a communications network, the communications network adapted to communicate with an internal computer system associated with the location, the internal computer system being associated with a sensing apparatus that can detect a triggering event at the location, the internal computer system being further associated with a device that can be controlled by the outside entity via the internal computer system; and

logic configured to receive an indication associated with an occurrence of the triggering event;

wherein responsive to the sensing apparatus detecting the triggering event, the internal computer system establishes a voice-over-Internet-protocol communication session with the outside entity via a communications network in communication with the location, the communications network including at least one of a public switched telephone network, the Internet and a wireless communication link,

wherein the triggering event activates an ability to allow control to be assigned to the outside entity.

48.   (Newly Added) The system of claim 47, wherein at least a portion of the communications session is secure.

49.   (Newly Added) The system of claim 48, wherein the security utilizes a digital certificate.

50.   (Newly Added) The system of claim 48, wherein the security utilizes X.509 standards.

51.   (Newly Added) The system of claim 47, further comprising logic configured to transfer a session to a second outside entity

52.   (Newly Added) The system of claim 51, wherein the second outside entity is a public safety answering point.

53.   (Newly Added) A method for enabling an outside entity to control devices at a location, the method comprising:

      associating at least one communications device with an internal computer system at the location;

      receiving communication of a triggering event associated with the location to the outside entity via a communications network in communication with the location, the communications network including at least one of a public switched telephone network, the Internet and a wireless communication link;

      utilizing a voice-over-Internet-protocol communication session between the internal computer system and the outside entity over an external computer network, wherein the communication session is initiated by the internal computer network;

      taking control of the communication session by the outside entity, wherein the triggering event activates an ability to allow control to be assigned to the outside entity.

54.   (Newly Added) The method of claim 53, wherein at least a portion of the communications session is secure.

55.   (Newly Added) The method of claim 53, wherein the at least one communications device is wireless.

56.   (Newly Added) The method of claim 53, wherein the location is associated with a moving object.

57.   (Newly Added) The method of claim 56, wherein the moving object is a vehicle.

58.   (Newly Added) The method of claim 57, wherein the vehicle is an automobile.

59.   (Newly Added) A monitoring and control apparatus at a location, the apparatus comprising:

an internal computer system associated with the location;

an wireless interface to a sensing element to monitor a location;

a communication processor to communicate with an outside entity via a communications network wherein the communications utilizes a secure tunnel and the outside entity is authenticated;

a control module allowing an outside entity to control the operations of the devices associated with a local area network;

wherein the devices include VoIP capable devices and television.

60.   (Newly Added) The apparatus of claim 59, wherein the communication utilizes quality of service.

61.   (Newly Added) The apparatus of claim 59, uses multiple levels of security.

62.   (Newly Added) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein the communications conveys multimedia information.

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